

INFORMATION REPORT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Switzerland/Yugoslavia/USSR

SUBJECT Sale of Ball Bearings
to the East from Switzerland

25X1A6a

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The following types of ball bearings for delivery to Yugoslavia and the USSR are in demand in Switzerland:

6010, 6204 to 6211, 6224, 6304 to 6318, 3309, 22218, 22511, 22315, 30307 to 30316, 32310, BUM 30.

2. The greatest demand is for type 32310 and interested parties have offered to buy as many of this type as can be made available.
3. Deliveries have already been made to the USSR and Yugoslavia as a result of the above demand. One of the principal suppliers is Vertli*, a Swiss engineer in Baden. Generally the ball bearings delivered are of German origin. Swiss agents pay for them in Germany with German marks bought at the cheap rate. The ball bearings are exported by irregular methods to Switzerland.
4. The shipments of the ball bearings from Switzerland are handled for the most part by the Swiss transport company Danzas & Co. They are usually shipped by rail to Vienna where they are handled by the Masped transport agency, a correspondent of Danzas & Co.
5. The financing of the above transactions is generally carried out through credits opened by front men with the Schweizerische Kredit-Anstalt, Lucerne.
6. In January 1948, during the negotiations for renewal of the Swiss-Soviet Trade Agreement for the exchange of goods, the Soviets rejected a Swiss offer to deliver ball bearings and stated that they had a sufficient supply from Sweden. By late January 1949, however, requests for no less than 2,000,000 Swiss francs worth of ball bearings were received in Switzerland from the USSR.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: Possibly Alfred J. Vertli, electrical engineer, St. Ursusstrasse 4, Baden (Ct. Aargau).

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